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ABSTRACT

This summary report discusses how Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) can affect the outcome of the 1984 conference on population. The four issues that will appear on the agenda in Mexico City are: (1) fertility and the family; (2) migration and population distribution; (3) population, resources and the environment; and (4) mortality and morbidity. NGO's were encouraged to urge their own governments to send delegations headed by ministerial level leaders, including women, to Mexico. Biographical information on the speakers is provided at the conclusion of the report. (RM)

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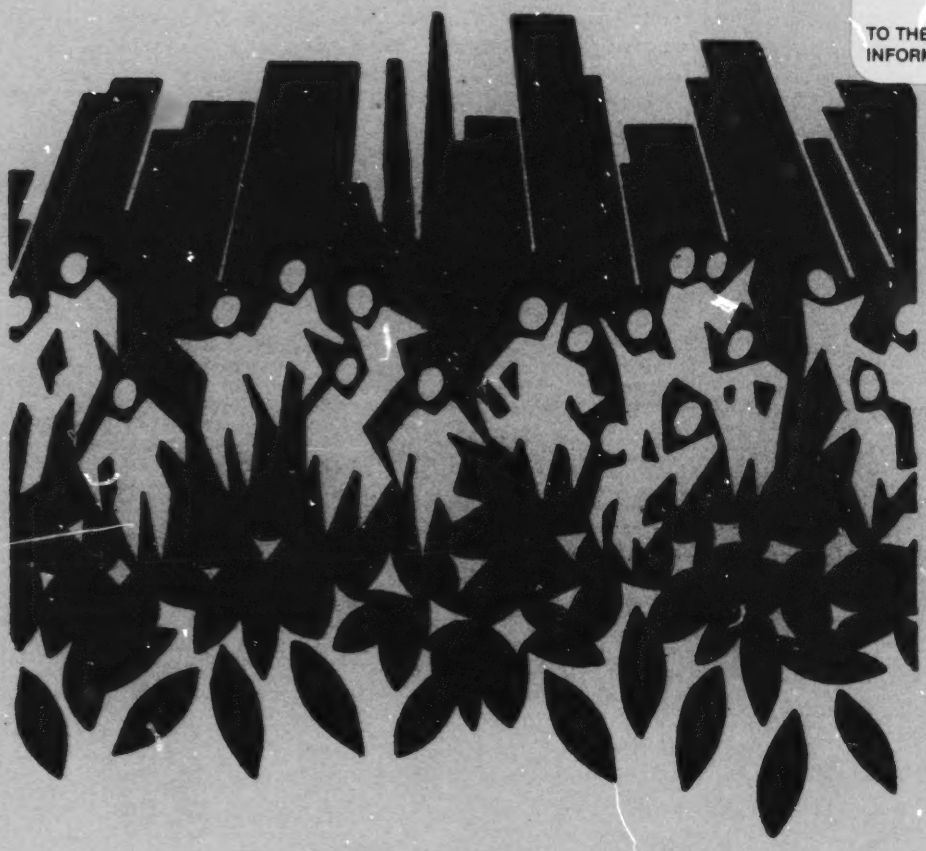
Towards Mexico 1984
Preparing for the International Conference on Population Mexico City, August 6 – 13, 1984 and beyond

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE THIRD ANNUAL NEW YORK UNFPA/NGO CONSULTATION



SO 015 667

- *What are the real issues?*
- *What are the political realities?*
- *How can NGOs affect the results?*

Church Centre, New York, March 13, 1984

The views in this report are those of participants, speakers, and panelists. They do not necessarily represent the views of the United Nations, the UNFPA, other United Nations agencies, or non-governmental organizations unless specifically noted.

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SUMMARY REPORT

THIRD ANNUAL NEW YORK UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES/ NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS CONSULTATION

13 March 1984

This report has been prepared for the NGO Population Task Force by the Non-Governmental Liaison Service of the United Nations.

Kumiko Katayama--Report Editor
with assistance from James Walls--Consultant

Price $3.00

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THIRD ANNUAL NEW YORK
UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES
NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS CONSULTATION

Tuesday, March 13, 1984 -- 9AM to 4PM
2nd floor, Church Centre, 777 United Nations Plaza, New York, 10017

Co-sponsored by:

The Development Committee of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (CONGO)

Conference of United Nations Representatives of the United Nations Association of the U.S.A.

The United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (New York)

Population Division of the United Nations Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

United Nations Fund for Population Activities

Non Governmental Organizations Population Task Force

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Manager, Population Programme, National Audubon Society 1

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Consultant, United States Catholic Conference

Kaval Gulhati: President, Centre for Development and Population Activities

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Associate Secretary, Division of Overseas Ministries, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

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Walter McLean: Member of Parliament, Canada

Philander P. Claxton, Jr.: President, World Population Society;
Adviser to the U.S. Delegation, Preparatory Committee

James H. Scheuer: Congressman, USA;
Chairman, Subcommittee on Natural Resources, Agriculture Research and Environment;
Chairman, Executive Committee of the Global Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development
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Preface

Preparing for the International Conference on Population and beyond: What are the real issues? What are the political realities? How can NGOs affect the results?

These were the basic questions addressed by The Third Annual New York Consultation of the UNFPA and Non-Governmental Organizations. The consultation was attended by approximately 100 leaders of non-governmental organizations, their representatives, population specialists, government and international agency members.

It was the third major preparatory effort of non-governmental organizations for the International Conference on Population to be held in Mexico City. It was preceded by last year's New York Briefing and the Geneva Consultation in September (published reports available). It was also the first at the United Nations Headquarters at which both Canada and Mexico were well represented, a cooperative trend on which we hope to expand.

The NGO Population Task Force, which sponsored the event, was founded four years ago by David Poindexter (Population Institute). Its objectives are: 1) to broaden consultation between the United Nations and the NGOs on population issues; 2) to support the work of the UNFPA and the United Nations; and 3) to facilitate each other's population work. It has naturally focused on the Mexico City Conference--most important population event since Bucharest in 1974--stimulating non-governmental action and encouraging governmental leadership. Next year it hopes to capitalize on the achievements of the Mexico City Conference, and to broaden its activities to include working relationships with Canada and Mexico.

This summary report gives the substance and spirit of the March 13th meeting. Included is a discussion of "Political Realities" as seen by officials of the Canadian, Mexican and U.S. delegations to the Preparatory Committee meetings as well as by outstanding non-governmental leaders from several countries. It provides some basic information, and can be used as a background paper on issues which will be addressed by the conference. Non-Governmental Organizations were encouraged to urge their own governments to send delegations headed by ministerial level leaders, including women, on their teams to Mexico.

The co-sponsors and the Population Task Force, listed on the page preceding the table of contents, made the Consultation possible. The UNFPA and the United Nations Population Division provided information and assistance. The speakers and the NGO leadership contributed their expertise. Those who attended added vitality to the proceedings. In addition, special thanks go to the following: David Poindexter, Chair of the Population Task Force and his staff members Mark Magnier and Dan Sherr; Nova Nestrick, Associated Country Women of the World, Arrangements Chair; James Chui, External Relations Officer of the UNFPA Division of Information and External Relations; German A. Bravo-Casas, Coordinator of the World Population Conference Implementation at the United Nations Population Division; Angus Archer, Coordinator of the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service, who organized this report, which was compiled and edited by Kumiko Katayama and James Walls; and the National Audubon Society which granted me the time and staff support to work on the Consultation.

Frances Breed
Chair, Annual Consultation
Manager, Population Programme,
National Audubon Society

New York, March 1984

Background

The Third Annual New York UNFPA/NGO Consultation was the final one before the International Conference on Population. The Consultation took its place as a part of the preparations for that conference as carried out by NGOs. Although the event in Mexico City will be a conference of Governments, as was Bucharest ten years earlier, NGOs will nevertheless make their impact on it.

Thus, preparatory activities by NGOs--in particular, by those with a strong interest in population matters--have paralleled the official preparations carried out by the United Nations through the Conference Secretariat. A high point of the NGO trajectory was the International Consultation of NGOs on Population Issues held in the Palais des Nations in Geneva in September, 1983. There, 200 individuals from 44 countries, representing almost 100 NGOs, reached consensus on the four issues that will appear on the agenda in Mexico City. These are: 1) fertility and the family, 2) migration and population distribution; 3) population, resources and the environment; and 4) mortality and morbidity.

The Third Annual Consultation had originally intended to take into account the conclusions reached by the Preparatory Committee for the conference, and most especially, the recommendations made by the Committee for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action as these are to be submitted to the conference. This was the work on which the Consultation was to make its comments and to transmit its views to the international NGO community.

As it happened, however, the Preparatory Committee did not reach agreement at its January session, and a second session was scheduled. This second session was in progress at the very moment at which the Consultation was taking place. The Consultation was disadvantaged by not knowing precisely what the Committee would ultimately decide. On the other hand, it had the advantage of being addressed by the Committee Chairman, Geronimo Martinez Garcia of Mexico, and by the Chairman of the Committee's Working Group to consider the recommendations, Fred T. Sai of Ghana. Through them and through Rafael Salas, the Secretary General of the Conference, the Consultation succeeded in capturing a sense of the course of events.

That the UNFPA should join in sponsoring the Consultation, as it has each year, is but one indication of the attention and cooperation that NGOs have received throughout from the United Nations and from those who are officially organizing the conference. As the years have passed, and world conferences have succeeded one another, the United Nations has progressively come to recognize the critical role played by NGOs in confronting the major problems of the world. The United Nations asks that NGOs make their input to these conferences attended by Governments and it does what it can to make sure that the view of NGOs are expressed in a usable, coherent form that can have an impact on conference agendas and be made available to national delegations.

Global Population Perspectives

Rafael M. Salas
United Nations Under Secretary-General
Executive Director, UNFPA
Secretary-General, International Conference on Population

The United Nations has decided to hold an International Conference on Population in Mexico City from 6 to 13 August 1984 to review and assess the World Population Plan of Action, and to make recommendations for its further implementation in the light of experience gained since the World Population Conference, held in Bucharest in 1974. Member states have been urged to send high level delegations.

In the decade since the Bucharest Conference, the global population growth rate has declined. However, there is considerable variation among the regions and among the countries. More and more countries have adopted population policies within the context of their overall national development objectives. Furthermore, there is an increased awareness among planners to take into account the inter-relationships of population and development factors.

Besides focussing on matters relating to fertility and the family, the International Conference on Population will also be examining questions related to population distribution, migration and development; population, resources, environment and development; and mortality and health policy. The inter-relationships among population, resources, environment and development factors are still not clearly understood, and we hope NGOs can help clarify the question.

We would heartily welcome an active participation of NGOs in the International Conference on Population. NGOs are encouraged to work together with governments, and participate in the Conference as part of the government delegations. Otherwise, several NGOs, with the permission of the Chairman, could present statements at the Conference. While there is a limit on the number of pages of the official documents, there would be no restrictions on the length of documents NGOs themselves might like to distribute. Also, NGOs would be accorded the usual facilities, as in other United Nations conferences.

NGOs have played a pioneering role in drawing the attention of the world to population issues. Success in population programmes could not have been achieved without the contribution of NGOs. NGOs have performed extremely well at the Preparatory Committee meetings of the Conference. UNFPA looks forward to further deepening collaboration with NGOs in population and development.

Issues from the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population

Fred T. Sai
Delegate of Ghana to the Preparatory Committee
Chairman, Preparatory Committee Working Group
Consultant, International Programme, Carnegie Corporation

The climate in which we met at Bucharest ten years ago was quite different from the one in which we are now preparing for the Mexico City Conference. In 1974, with East-West as well as North-South divisions on such matters as trade liberalization, the oil crisis, and the debate on the New International Economic Order, nobody was prepared to talk about population really seriously. Now the world has accepted the place of population in development and has recognized family planning as a legitimate exercise in which countries should get involved. The atmosphere surrounding the Mexico City Conference seems likely to permit a more rational discussion.

The global population growth rate has declined to around 1.7-1.8%. Although there is room for questions on those figures, it cannot be denied that a sense of achievement in reducing population growth rate has prevailed among developing countries.

In view of the absence of the actual targets in the World Population Plan of Action, it is difficult to evaluate the effectiveness of population policies. However, it might be useful if Mexico were to lead to a process whereby regional targets could be set by the countries of the regions themselves.

In spite of the great attention devoted to morbidity and mortality and the impressive gains in these areas in the past ten years, infant mortality is still horrendous in Africa and in some parts of Asia. There is no scientifically conclusive evidence of a direct relationship between infant mortality and fertility rates. Moreover, we have two major issues in front of us which need to be researched: 1) technical intervention in infant morbidity and mortality; 2) contribution of birth spacing for survival, proper growth, and nutrition of children. I insist that the problem of infant morbidity and mortality and general care for childen should be a primary concern for countries, since it is a society's responsibility to save the children and to give them as decent a life as possible once they are born. It is also necessary to set targets for maternal mortality separately from infant mortality because actions for saving mothers are not necessarily the same as those that save the lives of childen.

Advances made in reproduction, family planning and the status of women have been tremendous since the Bucharest Conference. Not only are parliaments and the courts legislating the right of couples and individuals to decide the number and the spacing of their children, but governments have come to show positive attitudes to family planning services directed even to their adolescent citizens.

International migration and world disarmament are also areas of contention. I hope that by the time of the Conference delegations will put these important political issues aside in favor of a concentration on issues directory related to population activities.

DISCUSSION

Q: In the present draft recommendations under review by the Preparatory Committee Working Group, almost nothing is mentioned about NGOs. I hope that some delegations will introduce initiatives on the important roles of NGOs in this field and call for government support for their activities.

Sai: There is some recognition of NGOs in the document, although it might not be strong enough. However, the feeling among the country representatives is that the NGO contributions have been tremendous.

Q: How do you see the place of natural family planning in the line of recommendations?

Sai: I would personally support reseach efforts on all methods of family planning, but would take a stand against advocating natural family planning as if it had the same scientifically proved effectiveness as some other methods. If a women chooses natural family planning after full advice, she should be given the best possible instruction in the method. We also must let her know the chances of failure. I believe that natural family planning will not pose a great problem in countries where the abortion laws are relatively liberal.

Q: The document to be presented in Mexico City focuses on governments' activities in family planning and does not seem to give enough attention to the grass roots movements. D you agree?

Sai: At the Mexico City Conference our discussions will concern implementation, much of which is carried out at the grass roots. You cannot state too much the implementation aspects in the statements of problems and strategies.

Critique of Plans and Questions: A Panel

Panelists: Walter Beattie, Paul Demeny, Msgr. Charles Fahey, Kaval Gulhati, Paul McCleary, Laurie Zabin

Walter Beattie

Success in the limitation of fertility is inevitably accompanied by an aging of the population. This is a new perspective which has emerged since the Bucharest Conference. We must assess and understand the relationship of aging to the entire life span and respond to it.

Individual and societal aging is intimately associated with the issue of how to approach the question of fertility control. Traditionally, the number of the young suggests the security of old age. The increase in numbers of older women is directly related to our successes in the maternal and child health field.

Those who are categorized as old, especially over 80, have been increasing their proportion of the entire population composition, although the majority of population policies have failed to point this out. Aging of the family is also a structural change occuring with an aging society.

Without the necessary planning for anticipated population shifts, both developed and developing countries may be confronted with ethical and moral issues that affect quality of life for all human beings in the world. It is essential not only to perceive aging as an issue directly associated with population questions, but also to recognize the tremendous assets and resources which the elderly can bring to bear on the quality of life and their contributions to socio-economic development in their societies.

The recommendations emerging from the Mexico City Conference should integrate the implications of aging into questions of population and underscore aging as a fundamental element of population planning, policies, and programmes.

Paul Demeny

I'd like to note four points which interfered with the full effectiveness of the Bucharest Conference and, therefore, should be watched at the forthcoming conference in Mexico City.

First, there was a feeling among participants that there were more important issues to be discussed than population. This failure to focus on the problems at issue detracted from what the meeting could otherwise have accomplished.

Second, a fallacy prevailed that universal policies existed in population, based on the assumption that the structure of population issues was pretty much the same from country to country. Population matters are, however, not to be generalized. Each nation must analyze its own problems, and find solutions that will fit its own situation.

Third was the unreasonable characterization of the population issue as something catastrophic in order to justify extreme concerns about it. What we need are sound and solid arguments with analyses for improving situations, rather than urgent calls for rescue from a disaster.

Fourth, it was false globalism to perceive population matters as a common problem for the entire world to cope with together. Although population policy includes international dimensions, it is important to remember that many of the costs and benefits of demographic behavior are internalized within national borders. Therefore, problems should be solved essentially through a decentralized process taking into account various national interests.

Msgr. Charles Fahey

As a representative of an organization with special concern for older people and with the ideological perspective of the elderly as an important part of society, I affirm these points: 1) the Mexico City Conference is an opportunity for examination and reflection on the Vienna Plan of Action, the document of the World Assembly on Aging; 2) the aged are assets to their societies; 3) older persons who are displaced culturally and stripped of all status or economic security constitute a small but absolute part of populations; and 4) older persons have stories to tell, the valuable contributions of experienced people to a decent world order.

Also representing the Roman Catholic perspective, I have a few comments to make. First, more resources should be allocated in the area of maternal and child health. Second, we must have a great deal of sensitivity for cultural patterns and personal values when it comes to fertility control. A solution of one problem should not be urged at the expense of other values and freedoms. The Holy See has prepared a "Charter of Rights of the Family" in which the church presents its views on contraception, sterilization, and abortion, and gives thought to the rights of individuals, families and societies as a whole.

Population issues should be considered in the context of the dignity of people and their well-being and should include questions on how to distribute global resources and how to preserve the planet in a good condition for our children and those who are not yet born.

Kaval Gulhati

Beyond the fact that infant mortality is still high in many countries, if the situation is observed carefully, it is seen that female infants and children show a higher mortality than male infants and children. Moreover, according to the data on teenage maternal mortality in India, mortality of girls aged between 15 and 19 is twice as high as that of boys. It is obvious that birth spacing does have beneficial effects on infant survival and on the health of mothers.

Those two issues, female infant mortality and birth spacing, are particularly interlinked to the roles and the status of women. A society's preference for male children may result in neglect of daughters and frequent births to produce more sons. The question facing us is, then, how to change social values so that couples will want to have girls and give them as much nutrition and care as they give boys.

We need to prove that women can be independent, capable, and able to take care of the aged, since preference for sons derives from the social security concerns of aged parents. For the purpose of educating and training women in the Third World, my organization is undertaking integrated, community based programmes. Better opportunities for development for women will bring positive trends to the roles and the status of women in their communities.

Paul McCleary

I welcome the NGO initiatives undertaken for the Mexico City Conference. NGOs have been in a constant process of reviewing and analyzing population issues.

Let me express two hopes for the role of the NGO community around the issues of the Conference.

I hope that the NGO community will give a human face to the global perspectives which will be shared at the Conference. You and I have attended many international meetings where the agenda has been crowded with an overview painting of the macro-dimension of the problems and issues with little insight into their linkage into the micro-level where most of us live. Sociological analysis which is an accumulation of statistics somehow fails to capture the anthropological dimension of what is happening to people. It is important to have the overview, but if it fails to have in mind the reality of what is happening or can happen in the villages of Asia, Africa, or Latin America, it will have little impact. I think that it is vital that the NGO community share in the activities of the Conference to bring this human dimension to the discussion which will take place.

The second hope I would express about the NGO contribution to the Conference is that it consciously contributes to the integration of the population issue into a context with development and environment. While giving due acknowledgement to the importance of the population issue, it will be just as important to set this issue in a context with development and environment. The agency which I direct is involved with refugees, relief, and development. We also have a Family Life and Population Programme. The importance of dealing with population, development and environment as interrelated issues is clear to us. If these issues are not dealt with in an integrated fashion, the negative impacts of one factor or another discount any progress being made. They must be dealt with together.

Laurie Zabin

Successful activities of the United Nations have been built on consensus, have attacked defined objectives, and have set measurable goals to accomplish necessary tasks. In the field of human fertility, consensus on family planning is especially important because millions of individual decisions will make up tomorrow's families. Contraceptive programmes, or actual delivery of preventive services, must mediate between those decisions and family sizes.

It is our challenge to express important issues into a document which has the most chance of focusing discussion and achieving consensus, and will lead to a productive action plan in the population field for the next decade. We can subscribe to four required characteristics: the plan must be specific, attainable, viable, and effective.

Specific recommendations help us make difficult choices among health issues by stating their direct and identifiable relation to population stabilization and reproductive health.

Only attainable recommendations seem useful if scarce resources are going to be allocated for their accomplishment.

Viable recommendations will survive the rhetoric of the conference and gain support in every cultural setting for which they are relevant.

Recommendations must be measurable and proven effective to have the accountability to serve the human population. Lip service is not only useless but also harmful since it creates an illusion.

Guided by these principles, we must make choices seriously and establish safe plans to be fulfilled.

DISCUSSION

Q: The Bucharest Plan of Action was not a declaration in favor of unlimited freedom of choice with regard to reproduction; it was a declaration which also stressed responsibility. The responsibility side, however, has been almost completely lost sight of. Does the panel agree?

McCleary: The issue of responsibility is directed to the total human society, rather than just to the religious community. It is our question in Mexico City to determine how we can cooperately move towards a responsible society.

Zabin: The issue of responsiblity is a two-way street. A culture which takes certain responsibility for its people has the right to demand a certain responsibility from them.

Comment: We will accomplish a great deal more in population if we carefully analyze the scientific nature of population issues and point out a precise next step to be taken. This is what we should get a consensus for, rather than for a preamble of a political and economic nature.

Q: What could be the role of NGOs with regard to birth spacing?

Gulhati: NGOs have been quite innovative in nutrition programmes in the third world, in terms of growth monitoring, oral rehydration, breastfeeding, and immunization. In each of those programmes, however, more research is needed to determine what really does have the most impact on delaying the next birth. In addition, effective contraceptive commodities and abstinence have strong influences on birth spacing.

Q: Is it too simple a proposition that population pressure and inability to integrate people nationally are what cause international migration? Why would you call international migration "international" if the subject is discussed not in the international forums but in bilateral forums?

Demeny: My point is that the emphasis on population problems as a global problem is deleterious to clear identification of where the causes really lie. In principle, international migration is under the control of national sovereignty. If a country does not wish to be a receptor of international migration, it can adopt measures unilaterally that will prevent such migration. The modification of a country's population problem through international migration is, in most cases, demographically speaking, a minor matter.

Q: Why is the number of teenage mothers growing in our society which is, as a leader of the world, addressing the questions of population?

Zabin: Adolescent pregnancy has a different aspect in developed countries from developing countries. In developed countries, it is extramarital and unintended, while in developing countries, adolescent fertility may be related to the early ages of marriage and even be intended.

Patterns of NGO Action in U.N. Inter-Governmental Conferences: A Panel

Panelists: Rosalind Harris, Jill Sheffield, Frances Dennis

Rosalind Harris

While NGOs show great diversity in their concerns, there can be seen concurrent efforts among them to synthesize and focus their attention on population issues and on specific areas.

One of the main purposes of NGO involvement in United Nations activities is to present the concern, commitment and experience of groups which cross national boundaries. NGOs also participate in United Nations conferences; they observe in conferences; they distribute materials; they address conferences on agenda items; and more importantly they talk with official delegates informally.

It is necessary, however, for NGOs to work first at the national level, explaining to national affiliates what the issues are, if they are to have a substantial impact on a conference since the delegations merely represent the views of their administrations at home. Through the interplay with government officials, national NGOs may influence the instructions to their delegations.

Furthermore, NGOs could cultivate, with their imagination and creativity, other means of constructive work and cooperation with governments on issues which reach the international arena, both in the framing of positions before a conference and in the implementing of recommendations after it.

Jill Sheffield

The United Nations inter-governmental conferences have been designed for raising public consciousness, formulating plans of action, and establishing international infrastructures. The International Conference on Population will indeed bring population issues to the public's mind as a central factor in human welfare. It may also strengthen the World Population Plan of Action by convincing governments that they must guarantee basic human rights to all their citizens.

In pressing for these objectives, NGOs will be doing what they have always done, which is to hold the feet of government to the fire. It is characteristic of governments to wish that problems would go away without having to do much about them. NGOs have heard high-ranking government officials say that population problems would take care of themselves. This attitude has tended to fade in recent years, and a new understanding of population questions places the Mexico Conference in a good position to take affirmative action.

On their side, NGOs have come to realize that if they are to affect what happens at world conferences, they must make their moves well in advance. This meeting is a part of a continuity of NGO planning that has been going on for almost two years. The Conference Secretariat has opened channels to us through which our sentiments can be heard. Not all the views we have passed through these channels are reflected in the Conference agenda or in its documentation. This is because NGOs are still well in advance of most governments on population questions, and in advance of the United Nations, too, which takes its lead from what it believes are the prevailing government attitudes. If the United Nations errs, it will try to do so on the side of caution.

From now till the Conference, NGOs will be working with media and personal contacts, influencing the compositions of national delegations, preparing documentation available to the delegates, and considering their own direct interventions.

Frances Dennis

NGOs represent enormous resources, and governments are beginning to look to us as experts in our fields. They need us as much as we want to influence them. Therefore, what we need now is the confidence that we NGOs can make great contributions.

Related to this, NGOs have a splendid capacity to be able to coalesce for interaction in spite of each others' highly specialized disciplines and vastly different interests. Compared to governments which have conventional sectoral approaches, NGOs can get out and work together much more easily and effectively.

Finally, it must be acknowledged that much of the work of NGOs has to be accomplished at the national level where major actions can take place, thanks to our strong network of national associations. For example, a smooth communication between international organizations and govenments can be possible through the indigenous affiliations of international NGOs.

Challenge to NGOs

Werner Fornos
President, Population Institute
Director, Population Action Council

First of all, I confirm the total commitment of NGOs to the improvement in the quality of life in the world. Indeed, the population movement in the past demonstrates its determination to change the course of history.

In 1974, at the Bucharest Conference, there was a sense of idealism, a sense of dedication, and a sense of participating in history among the participants. But there do not seem to exist the same kinds of feelings in the governmental atmosphere prevailing before the Mexico City Conference. It will be an interesting and undeniable contribution of NGOs to rekindle those feelings before the Conference begins in 145 days.

I stress two principles for the delegations to the Mexico City Conference. First, they should be composed of at least one ministerial level official and an eminent and leading NGO representative who ideally will be a woman. We must stimulate our governments to form "quality delegations," which are proud, determined, and dedicated.

Second, we must realize that NGOs are no longer outsiders. We should rather try to get NGO representatives appointed to the delegations of those 84 nations which have population growth rates of 2.5% or higher in order to educate their delegations. Effective education will lead all participating governments to a meaningful Plan of Action at the Conference.

There are 600 million women who do not want any more children or did not want their last child. If 100 million of them should be provided with the means and education to determine their fertility, which is a basic human right, world population will stabilize at eight billion people. We NGOs must actively give assistance to those who could not otherwise have been heard.

Political Realities before the International Population Conference: An International Panel

Chairman--Dr. Hernan Sanhueza
Director, IPPF Western Hemisphere Region

Panelists: Geronimo Martinez Garcia, Adrian Lajous, T. B. Sheehan, Walter McLean, Philander P. Claxton, James Scheuer (his statement by Lisa Gomer)

Dr.Hernan Sanhueza

There are three levels of population activities necessary to carry out our projects--the technical, the managerial, and the political.

On the technical side, we have reached a satisfactory stage, in that safe and efficient methods are available today, and adequate procedures to deliver those methods have been developed. This is a technical accomplishment that has already been applied. Managerial skills, however, need to be renewed continually according to the unique and unprecedented situations in each society.

But the most complex aspect is that of political will, reflecting the attitudes and traditions of an entire society. In this connection, the role of the private sector is especially important. For example, private groups, which pioneered the technical and managerial aspects of family planning, proved in the process that the services could be provided without undue political risks. The private sector takes the risk of testing innovations which governments are hesitant to do.

The constructive complementarities between the public and the private sectors are essential and they enable action in politics to fulfill its promise.

Geronimo Martinez Garcia

The demographic situation in Mexico is characterized by these three points: first, the decline in mortality since 1940 along with a relatively stable fertility rate has resulted in a higher rate of population growth; second, the increasing internal migration flows have caused imbalances in the geographic distribution of our population, concentrating it in the metropolitan areas; third, international migration involves Mexican emigrants to the United States and Central American immigrants to Mexico. Due to the pattern of rapid growth, a large part of the Mexican population is young and dependent.

To deal with our demographic problems, the Mexican Constitution establishes equality between the sexes, the right of couples to decide the number and the spacing of their children, and freedom of transit inside the country. The National Population Council, created under the General Population Law, is the institutional base of these policies. However, it is understood that population policies cannot be executed without the public's knowledge about demographic conditions, their social consciousness, and the political will.

Mexico is now putting into practice an extensive national population programme which consists of seven specific elements: education on population issues, family planning, family development, women's integration into development, population distribution, integration of native groups into social development, and research on population and development. At the same time, the social sector is strongly encouraged to participate in actions initiated by federal, state, and municipal governments.

Mexico hopes that all the nations at the International Conference on Population will reach a consensus on assessing the World Population Plan of Action and on recommendations for its further implementation. We expect that each government will take a positive attitude in the search for balanced solutions. Furthermore, it is Mexico's intention that the resulting document will not only present the different viewpoints of member nations, but will also respond to their integrated conception of population problems.

Adrian Lajous

Family planning in Mexico was initiated by small but well-motivated groups of people who suffered the prejudices of the majority of the public in their time. The Government was also hostile to this movement in its early stages, turning indifferent toward it until very recently.

However, the Mexican Government came to realize the necessity of family planning in governing the country and in its responsibility to ensure family welfare. Thus, in 1970, the Government adopted family planning as a constitutional right.

With the change in the Government's position, the private groups sought to cooperate with the health authorities in charge of family planning by supporting them in areas which required flexibility and penetration. In this context, the education and motivation of women to ensure themselves the right to plan their families was considered as the main function of the private sector.

The International Conference on Population will be an excellent opportunity to bring the general public's attention to family planning, and the NGOs intend to take advantage of this renewed interest to strengthen their on-going programmes.

Questions Directed to Mexico

Q: How much per capita has been spent for family planning services in Mexico?

Lajous: I am not able to answer in detail, but would like to mention that Mexico has established the arrangement that every student in the country should receive an introduction in family planning at the junior college level.

Q: What is the Mexican Government's position on abortion?

Lajous: It does not admit that it happens, although there is evidence of its unofficial recognition. The prejudice against abortion is, however, high among the public at large.

Q: What is the public's attitude to family planning in Mexico? Are there adversaries?

Lajous: Those who are ignorant about family planning or religiously prejudiced seem opposed to the concept. In fact, taboos about family planning still exist, but are being worked on by the Government.

T. B. Sheehan

Canada's primary interest at the Bucharest Conference was the inter-relationship between population and socio-economic development, emphasizing the impact of demographic change on the environment and the promotion of human rights.

In the area of environment, we presented the notion of "carrying capacity" which is the ability of the land base to sustain populations at given levels of technology and amenity, and encouraged other countries to examine their production and consumption patterns in order to achieve a more efficient utilization of natural resources.

We also recognized the human rights relating to population questions, such as: 1) the right of couples to decide, freely and responsibly, the number and the spacing of their children; 2) the right of individuals to have access to information on and methods of fertility regulation; and 3) the equal rights and opportunities for women and minorities to participate in societies and in the formulation of national population policies.

Besides these basic positions in 1974, which are still valid, the Canadian Government tentatively proposes the advancement of health care as a principal issue at the Mexico City Conference, in that health is the most fundamental human need and must be satisfied prior to any other population strategy.

The other focus is on the improvement in conditions for women. Their access to nutrition, health care, education, training, and employment would reduce both fertility and infant mortality, which in turn holds promise for the well-being of the next generation.

Canada considers the forthcoming Conference as an opportunity to strengthen existing channels of population assistance and to seek the incorporation of population dynamics into general development assistance programmes. Acknowledging the NGOs' ability to initiate grass roots activities, the Government expects them to participate actively and to support the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action and the Conference's recomendations. The real challenge lies in what we do after Mexico.

Walter McLean

A political reality is that politicians learn what they have to learn, depending on electoral consciousness for their political lives. It is the pressure from the public that gets elected representatives to talk about what the public want us to do. In this sense, the voluntary sector educates politicians as well as the public.

While the voice of NGOs is that of educators and experts, and can be loud without losing meaning, the repetition or too much emphasis on any one proposal only becomes propaganda in the political arena.

Although the consultative process for the Mexico City Conference is under way, it is a mere gathering of fragmented policies within the Government. There has not been any organized concept of population as a whole in the Canadian Government. At this point, just before the election in June, NGOs should light a fire by lobbying candidates on the issues before the Conference.

It is my feeling that NGOs have not done enough in preparation for lobbying on these population issues and are not seizing the opportunity of ready-made campaign forums in the U.S.A. and Canada to raise these issues.

Philander P. Claxton, Jr.

The ECOSOC resolution that established the International Conference on Population in Mexico City urges that: 1) it recognize that the principles and goals of the World Population Plan of Action are still valid; 2) it deal with population matters of the highest priority; and 3) it make recommendations for the further implementation of the World Population Plan of Action. The recommendations as presented to the Preparatory Committee, however, seem too many for us to know what the really urgent points are.

The aspects of the World Population Plan of Action which the United States considers important and therefore would like to see retained in the recommendations are: 1) confirmation of the inter-relationship between population and development; 2) the basic human right to decide the number and the spacing of births; 3) the formulation and implementation of population policies as an expression of universal solidarity and with the thoughts of the quality of life for all the peoples in the world; 4) appropriate education concerning responsible parenthood; 5) quantitative goals to be set under the sovereignty of each government; 6) improvement in the status of women; 7) establishment of national planning agencies on population as a part of the comprehensive socio-economic development programmes; and 8) NGOs' participation in population activities in a coordinated manner.

We must recognize the basic demographic fact that, due to the world-wide decline in the death rate, population growth rates will continue to go up unless birth rates go down. For the reduction of fertility rates, increased efforts to promote family planning programmes are needed. The United States suggests all governments should establish a national policy unit for family planning, consisting of competent people in this field, and we also advance the idea of a training system for administrative personnel to carry out national strategies. The U.S. delegation will also argue in Mexico City for introducing the concept that higher fertility implies the danger of increased mortality for both mother and child, and that primary health care should be provided in all countries. Finally, we will emphasize improvement in the status of women not only for its own value but also for the value of helping fertility reduction.

By the year 2000, there will be 500 million more couples who are at reproductive ages. More thought should be given to assistance to family planning services and to community based distribution. Cooperative efforts by governments and NGOs are essential.

James H. Scheuer (Statement read by Lisa Gomer)

With the recognition of the critical importance of population and the understanding of its implications for resource conservation and all aspects of socio-economic development, many developing as well as developed countries have been active in funding national family planning efforts, creating a positive climate for those programmes, and achieving a national consensus in support of population goals. However, the implications of declining resources and growing populations have not led to adequate policy responses. There is a huge gap between the demand for family planning services and the supply.

The major obstacle facing most countries in population and development programmes is a lack of political will. Therefore, the challenge to parliamentarians in the United States and around the world is to build a

political consensus across ideological barriers within and between countries, and to ensure a real commitment to action on population and development. Parliamentarians are part of the political process and the link between government and the people.

The United States has established a domestic programme of subsidized family planning services and an international programme of population assistance. But its involvement in population and development has not gone far enough. We must pursue active policies which increase the support to developing countries, promote the participation of NGOs at local, national, regional, and international levels, and pay more attention to the development and evaluation of contraceptive methods.

The United States along with other countries should call for greater international cooperation and multilateral aid programmes. It is necessary that we should press not only the United Nations agencies but also international financial institutions to expand their support for population activities and related development programmes.

We must also take the initiative for improvements in the status of women, since family planning programmes will never succeed unless women become full and equal partners in development.

I hope that the Mexico City Conference will result in a meaningful plan based upon the experience we have gained. For example, it seems more feasible to set targets suitable for each region's particular conditions. It is also essential to set priorities indicating areas that require urgent and expanded attention. I expect that the United States will play a vital role in shaping action-oriented recommendations.

DISCUSSION

Q: A political reality in the United States before the Mexico City Conference is as follows: the fact that this is a presidential election year might influence the position of the U.S. delegation at the Conference. What kind of influence do you see, as an advisor to the U.S. delegation, by the conservatives in support of the President?

Claxton: The atmosphere now is very positive in terms of the major issues in the World Population Plan of Action, unlike the skeptical atmosphere in Bucharest. Considering the serious recognition by many countries of population factors, what will actually come out of the Conference will not be substantially affected by different views among different segments of U.S. citizens. Neither will the position of the U.S. delegation be significantly changed by those different views. There will be, however, considerable influence by the particular attitudes of the person who will head the delegation.

Q: While it takes non-governmental forces to shape national development, including the improvement in demographic situations in developed countries, the role of NGOs in the total history of economic development is often nonexistent or totally dependent on governments. Can NGOs in developed countries do anything about it and do you have any thought on how to strengthen the influence of NGOs in developing countries?

Lajous: The weakness of NGOs in developing countries is not due to governmental action or non-action, but is a result of being a poor country. For example, Mexico has a relatively high standard of living and at the same time it is poor. This duality and split personality is a part of the reason why NGOs in developing countries do not operate as effectively as they do in developed countries. I would not advise that NGOs in developed countries interfere in the relationship between governments and NGOs in the developing countries.

Q: There have been world-wide meetings by parliamentarians with interests in global issues. What is the influence of those participating parliamentarians on their colleagues when they go back to their parliaments? What happens in the process of interaction? How could NGOs take part in this interaction of politicans who are the interpreters of various constituencies?

McLean: Debates at parliamentarian's meetings do touch on why each nation's tax revenue should be spent to support U.N. Agencies especially at the time when the activities are under attack by governments and funds are cut back. I welcome, as a politican, the global perspective which these meetings bring about, in that the broader perspective will enable us to see and talk about the linkage of single issues to the entire subject of development. Thus, as for population also, meetings of parliamentarians do provide elected representatives with an opportunity to deal with these issues in a non-confrontational way.

Q: Who is giving thought as to how the recommendations of the Mexico City Conference will be implemented? Who is looking at the wealth of experiences, in terms of strategies, that constitute the basis for substantive action in population?

Claxton: UNFPA, with the assessment of demographic situations from country to country, answers requests and gives considerable advice. At the international level, IPPF is a centre of knowledge and assistance in this field. Moreover, there are numerous activities at the national level. There is, however, no single international coordinating point other than UNFPA or the Population Division of The United Nations which has this enormous source of factual information.

Recommendations being shaped by the the Preparatory Committee in the population and family planning fields, in improving the status of women, and on morbidity and mortality rate are satisfactory. With the documentation on those recommendations in hand, the delegations in Mexico City should keep their discussions focused on how the recommendations can be implemented.

Closing Address

Arthur McCormack
Director, Office of Population and Development in Rome
Missionary-priest, Mill Hill

Throughout history, human life has been regarded as something sacred, and its transmission has been treated with reverence. However, the implications of human life in the social environment have drastically changed.

At the beginning of history, the "quantity of life" was positively related to the "quality of life" of mankind, since population growth was the simple necessity for the race to survive. Even at the middle of the last century, quantity was a duty as well as a source of happiness and human prosperity, from both a secular and a religious point of view.

But during the last hundred years, population increase has no longer led to an improved quality of life, but rather has denied human dignity because the rapid expansion of population meant that the elementary conditions of life to all could not be provided. Now, great efforts must be made to decrease high birth rates in order to promote the welfare of human beings.

Because of the religious aura surrounding the transmission of human life, I believe that religious leaders could have a strong influence in encouraging declines in birth rates. I urge them to show their concerns about the lowering of population growth, and would like to see a coalition of all religious and non-religious oriented people for the implementation of the World Population Plan of Action. I realize that NGOs can play a leading part in this movement.

"I may seem very naive to some relying on past experiences in suggesting a great movement of the Catholic and other Christian Churches and of other religions to promote population awareness and action, maybe I am. But there is no reason for that pessimistic assesment. For surely bodies which are dedicated to worship the God of truth would be eager to propagate truth. And bodies whose mission is the welfare of mankind, especially the poorest would be only eager to highlight any factors which could jeopardize the efforts being made to promote the developments of peoples."

Biographical Information on Speakers

WALTER M. BEATTIE, JR. Professor of Gerontology and Social Policy, Syracuse University, joined that University in 1966 as Dean and Professor of the School of Social Work. In 1972, he established the All-University Gerontology Centre and served as its Director until 1980. He is past president of the Gerontolocical Society of America (1963) and of the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education (1974) and has served as consultant and technical advisor to a number of international and national organizations, including the United Nations Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, the World Health Organization's Global Programme for Care of the Aged and the United States Senate. He was a member of the governing Council of the International Association of Gerontology (1963-1969) and is a Board member of the International Centre of Social Gerontology. Author of some fifty publications in the area of Gerontology, Professor Beattie has served as a consultant, lecturer, or visiting professor to some fifty universities and colleges throughout the US and Canada. He holds academic degrees from the US Merchant Marine Academy, Rutgers University and the University of Chicago.

FRANCES BREED Manager Population Programme, National Audobon Society, spent the 1960's working in population, the 1970's in conservation: six years as Director of Administration with Planned Parenthood-World Population, three as Associate Director of Sex Information and Education Council, an organizer of the 1970 Chicago Congress on Population and Environment, and nine years with the National Audubon Society--Vice President, Public Relations and Development. In 1979 she had the opportunity to create a population programme for Audobon under Russell W Peterson. Experience has included government relations on international, state and local levels; developing public interest programmes and community organization; promoting inter-agency cooperation and agency/government project coordination; working with environmental groups, foundation grants and financial control. She served as a resource consultant--US, Mid-East, and Southeast Asia; as liaison with industry. In 1972 she was involved in the Stockholm Environment Conference; last year participated in the Expert Group on Population, Resources, Environment and Development and the NGO Consultation (Geneva) and attended the Preparator Committee Meetings for the IPC.

PHILANDER P. CLAXTON, JR. Advisor to US Delegation, Preparatory Committee Department of State 1946-1975, had a central role in originating the principal programmes of US Government assistance to economic and social development in LDC's from beginning of Point 4 programme, 1950.--Deputy Assistany Secretary for Congressional Relations, managed the authorizing and appropriations for these programmes to 1963. In 1966 designated as the first Special Assistant to the Secretary of State for population matters abroad. Represented the US in numerous international bodies and meetings including the UN Population Commission: organized and served on the U.S. Delegation to the UN World Population Conference, Bucharest in 1974.--President, World Population Society (1975 on) organized major international population conferences 1975, 1976, 1978, and 1980. Heads RAPID project of The Future Group for the Population Office for AID, analyzing the effects of population factors for more than 50 developing countries on their economic and social development goals; presenting computerized analyses to political leadership.

PAUL DEMENY an economist and demographer, is a Vice President of the Population Council (since 1973) and Director of the Council's Centre for Policy Studies (since 1976). The Population Council is an international scientific and professional organization with headquaters in New York City. A native of Hungary, Mr. Demeny studied at the University of Budapest, at the Institut Universitaire de Hautes Etudes Internationales in Geneva, Switzerland, and at Princeton University where he recieved his Ph.D. in Economics in 1961. Prior to joining the Council, he was Director of the East-WestCentre in Honolulu and Professor of Economics, the University of Hawaii; Professor of Economics and Associate Director of the Population Studies Centre, the University of Michigan; and was associated with the Department of Demography, university of California at Berkeley and the Princeton University Office of Population Research and Department of Economics. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, First Vice-President of the Population Association of America and Chairman of the Editorial Committee of Population and Development Review.

FRANCES DENNIS was a Canadian journalist formerly employed by Reuters, and is now the Director of Information and Public Relations at the London headquarters of the IPPF where she has worked for the past 20 years.

Msgr.CHARLES J. FAHEY occupies the Marie Ward Doty Chair in Aging Studies. He is a member of the Federal Council on Aging, and of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. He is a member of the New York State Health Council, and of the Governor's Health Advisory Council. In New York City, he is Chairman of the Advisory Council of the Department for the Aging. He is a member of the Board of the National Conference of Catholic Charities, a delegate of the Holy See to the United Nations, and, a consultant to the United States Catholic Conference. He has been Director of the Third Age Centre since 1979.

WERNER FORNOS is President of the Population Institute, the largest public network seeking to bring global population in balance with resources. He is also Director of the Population Action Council, a division of the Institute that focuses on establishing a strong commitment from leadership in the industrialized world--especially in the United States--to solve the problem of rampant global population growth. Mr. Fornos participated in the Expert Group Meeting on Fertility and the Family, New Delhi, India; Population Resources, Environment and Development, Geneva, Switzerland and all Regional Preparatory Committee meetings leading to the ICP in Mexico. Mr. Fornos has been a management consultant in family planning to such institutions as the United States Agency for International Development, the American Public Health Association, Westinghouse Health Systems, the Airline Foundation and George Washington University. He has worked on development projects involving population and family planning in Tunisia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Iran, Turkey, Mexico, the Philippines, Indonesia, China, Sri Lanka and Kenya. Under his leadership, the Population Action Council has recruited 27,000 community leaders who speak out on population issues at the local and national levels.

KAVAL GULHATI President of The Centre for Development and Population Activities, has a professional background in the social sciences, research, management and training. Her academic qualifications include a Master's degree from Delhi University and a Certificate in Management Studies from Oxford University in England. She began her career in family planning in India during the 1960's and since 1970 has worked in the United States in the field of training and programme management. In 1978 she started CEDPA's innovative management training programme for the Third World women managers working in health and family planning, which includes an innovative in-country follow-up component. She is the author of several publications and is writing her Ph.D. dissertation on Management for Oxford University.

ROSALIND W. HARRIS is President of the NGO Committee on UNICEF and Past President of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (CONGO). In the latter capacity she also served as Chairman of the Planning and Management Committee for the Population Tribune 1974 held in Bucharest. For many years she has represented International Social Service at the UN Headquarters as well as being a member of the ISS Executive Committee and working with its American Branch as President and Acting Director. ISS provides social services to individuals and families with problems arising from inter-country movements. Thus it is concerned with the issues around migration and refugee situations. Rosalind Harris has been actively involved with a number of other NGO events related to UN conferences and meetings such as the two women's conferences and Habitat. From 1975-1983 she was on the Board of the International Women's Tribune Centre, a follow-up project of the 1975 IWY Tribune in Mexico City.

ADRIAN LAJOUS Education, University of Mexico, LLB.; salient past positions, Manager, Inter-American Cotton Federation; Chairman of Council, International Sugar Organization; Executive Director, World Bank; Director General, Fondo de Equipamiento Industrial; Instituto Mexicano de Comercio Exterior; Banco Nacional de Comercio Exterior. Present positions: Chairman of the Board, Fundacion Mexicano de Planeacion Familiar; Columnist, Editorial Page of Mexico City Daily, "Excelsior".

GERONIMO MARTINEZ GARCIA is the Secretary-General of the National Population Council of Mexico (COMAPO). He was Pricipal Director of the National Centre on Information and Labor Statistics in the Secretary of labor (1976-1982). He was also a researcher for programmes, in the Secretary of the Presidency (1973-1975). He was a professor of Population and Development in El Colegio de Mexico and the Instituto Politecnico Nacional (1973-1982). Mr. Martinez Garcia has written many articles on population, labor market, international migration, and development.

WALTER McLEAN M.P., Waterloo, Canada was elected to Parliament 1979, relected in 1980. In 1983 he was appointed to the Progressive Conservative "Shadow Cabinet" as Opposition critic to the Secretary of State. He attended the 1979 UNFPA-Sri Lanka Conference on Population and Development and has been active in Parliament on international development, human rights, Africa, Central America and the role of NGOs. From Ontario, raised in Victoria, B.C.

he holds B.A. and Masters of Divinity degrees, plus post-graduate studies--University of Edinburgh. Served as President of Student's Council and President of the National Federation of Canadian University Students; 1962-67 spent in Eastern Nigeria with the Presbyterian Church; Involved with founding CUSO--Canadian University Students Overseas; worked with the Manitoba Centennial Commission, Manitoba Association for World Development and the Canadian International Development Programme. 1971 to 1979 he was Minister of Knox Presbyterian Church in Waterloo, Ontario.

PAUL F. McCLEARY Executive Director of Church World Service and Associate Secretary for the Division of Overseas Ministries at the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Church World Service is the development, rehabilitation and relief office within the National Council of Churches. Dr. McCleary administers the planning of strategy, establishing of priorities, coordinating of efforts among CWS and non-CWS cooperative agencies, and the collection and distribution of financial resources. Ecumenically, CWS works to establish an evolving global value system which sustains the dignity of the individual and universal social justice. Dr. McCleary recieved a D.D. from MacMurray College, Jacksonville, Illinois in 1970 and recieved his Master of Divinity from Garrett Theological Seminary, in Evanston, Illinois in 1976.

FATHER ARTHUR McCORMACK is a missionary-priest of Mill Hill and Director of the Office of Population and Development in Rome, Italy. In his long career as a professional in the fields of population and development, he has held distinguished posts of service both to the Church and to the international community. Included among these is serving in an advisory capacity to various UN agencies. Father McCormick is a prolific author with numerous publications to his credit. Among his books are The Population Problem; World Poverty and the Christian People; The Population Explosion: A Christian Concern

DAVID POINDEXTER has been the NGO representative of the Population Institute at the U.N. since the early seventies. He has, for years, been the convenor of the Working Group on Population of the CONGO Committee on Development (New York), and Chair of the Sub-Committee on Population for the Conference of U.N. Representatives of the UNA-USA. Fours years ago, he took the lead in organizing the NGO Population Task Force at UN Headquarters, which sponsored the Consultation. In his capacity as Director of the Communication Centre of the Population Institute, his working with national population communication programmes in all regions necessitates continuing overseas travel.

FRED T. SAI Consultant to the Carnegie Corporation's International Programmes, is a professor of Community Health in the University of Ghana Medical School. He has worked in Health Nutrition and Population since his qualification as an M.D. He was FAO Nutrition Officer for the African Region from 1963-2966, and a consultant to the WHO, the World Bank, and other international organizations on popluation and health issues. He served as Assistant Secretary-General to the IPPF from 1972-1978 and as a special advisor to its Secretary-General. Director of Medical Services for his country he served in many delegations to international conferences. He is an outspoken proponent for African development in the fields of health, nutrition, and population. Publications include a set of five policy briefs issued by IPPF entitled Occasional Essays. He chaired the WHO/UNICEF Infant

and Young Child Feeding Conference, Geneva 1979, and was active in consultations resulting in the WHO/UNICEF Code on Marketing of Breast Milk Sustitutes. He chaired the working group sessions of the Preparatory Commission considering Draft Recommendations for the ICP.

RAFAEL M. SALAS who is an Under Secretary-General of the United Nations is Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, and has served as the only head of UNFPA since it became operational in 1969. In 1982, he was appointed by the United Nations Secretary-General as Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population to be held in Mexico in 1984. In the Philippines, where he comes from, he was Executive Secretary of the Philippine Rebublic from 1966 to 1969, and initiated the "green revolution" in the late 1960's. As a diplomat, he served on numerous Philippine delegations to the international conferences. He served as Assistant Vice-President of the University of Philippines, and taught law, economics, and political science. He is a graduate of the same university (A.B., magna cum laude; LL.B., cum laude) and Harvard University (M.P.A.). He has recieved many honorary degrees (Ph.D., LL.D., D.P.A., D.Pol.S., D.P.S., D.Econ., D.S.S., L.H.D., D.H.), honorary professorships and academic awards from academic institutions from different parts of the world. He was named "Diplomat of the Year" in 1976 by the Editorial Board of the Diplomatic Bulletin. He is the author of International Population Assistance: the First Decade (1979), and People: an International Choice (1976), as well as the author of numerous articles on governmental management and population issues.

HERNAN SANHUEZA M.Sc. graduated as a physician from the University of Chile Medical School in 1971. He practiced obstetrics and gynecology for several years in Chile, where he organized one of the first family planning clinics and worked as assistant professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine in the University of Chile's School of Public Health. Persuing his interest in the population field, he obtained a graduate degree in medical demography from the University of London in 1971. He joined the International Planned Parenthood Federation in February of 1972 as Medical Director of the Western Hemisphere Region, serving in that capacity until February, 1978, at which time he was appointed Director of the WHR Office, the position he holds at present. As Regional director, Dr. Sanhueza heads an interdisciplinary team of professionals who provide assistance to 42 family planning associations in the region. Dr. Sanhueza was Coordinator of the Western Hemisphere Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development held in Brasilia, Brazil in December, 1982.

JAMES H. SCHEUER is a Democrat who currently represents the 8th Congressional District of New York and has served 18 years in Congress. As a senior member of the House Committee on Science and Technology, Scheuer is Chairman of the Sub-committee on Natural Resources, Agriculture Research, and Environment. He is also the ranking Democrat on the Committee on Energy and Commerce. In addition, he serves on the Joint Economic Committee. He recieved an A.B. degree from Swarthmore College in 1945, a degree in Industrial Administration from the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration in 1946, and an LL.B. degree from Columbia University Law School in 1948. He is also Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Global Committee of Parliamentarians on Population and Development. He was

Vice Chairman of the International Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development in Sri Lanka, and he recently participated in the First Conference of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development in New Delhi.

TERRENCE B. SHEEHAN is Director-General of the Immigration and Social Affairs Bureau, Department of External Affairs, Canada. He joined the Foreign Service of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration in 1958 and subsequently served in Cologne, Stuttgart and The Hague during the period 1959-1967. In 1967, he became Executive Assistant to the Deputy Minister, Department of Manpower and Immigration. Before becoming High Commissioner to Jamaica, Bahamas, and Belize from 1978-1982, he was posted in London as Minister Counsellor in 1976. In 1982, he became Assistant Under-Secretary, Immigration Affairs in the Department of External Affairs.

JILL SHEFFIELD is Director of International Programmes at the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Previously, she held a number of positions, including Director of Programmes at World Education, a not-for-profit technical assistance agency specializing in health, nutrition and agriculture programmes. Ms. Sheffield is currently Chairman of the IPPF/Western Hemisphere Region Board of Directors and Chairman of the IPPF Central Programme Committee. She was a member of IPPF's delegation to the 1974 World Population Conference in Bucharest. Her interest in maternal child family health and population issues began in the mid 1960s when she lived and worked in Africa. She has worked and traveled extensively in Latin America, the Carribean and Africa. She holds graduate degrees in International Relations and Educational Planning from Columbia University.

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